

FACT SHEET

FEBRUARY 2000



Former Fort Ord East Garrison Area

DRAFT CLOSURE PLAN

California
Environmental
Protection Agency

DEPARTMENT OF TOXIC
SUBSTANCES CONTROL

*It is DTSC's mission
to protect public
health and the
environment from
harmful exposure
to hazardous
substances.*



INTRODUCTION

The United States Army has applied to the Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) for approval of a draft Closure Plan (Plan) for the former hazardous waste storage unit known as the Defense Reutilization and Marketing Office (DRMO) located in the East Garrison Area of the former Fort Ord (See Figure 1). The DRMO was used between 1973 and 1994 to store a variety of hazardous materials including: electrical transformers with oil containing polychlorinated biphenyls (PCB's), solvents, waste oil and grease. This fact sheet describes the DRMO and summarizes the Plan and the opportunities for public involvement during the closure process.

CLOSURE PLAN REVIEW PROCESS

A draft DRMO Closure Plan was initially submitted in October of 1991, to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) in compliance with the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA). RCRA is the federal law governing

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION OPPORTUNITIES

The public comment period for the Plan is from March 1, 2000 to March 30, 2000. The Plan is available for public review in the information repositories listed on page 4 of this fact sheet. DTSC encourages the public to review the Plan and submit comments to:

Mr. Andy Berna-Hicks, Project Manager
Department of Toxic Substances Control
700 Heinz Avenue, Suite 200
Berkeley, California 94710-2737

DTSC will consider all comments received during the public comment period before making any final Plan decision. Once a decision has been made on each issue, to approve, deny or modify the Plan, notice will be given to the applicant as well as to anyone who submitted written comments or requested notice of the final decision. DTSC will prepare a response to comments document to be sent to each commentor and placed in the information repository for public review. A public hearing to accept comments on the Plan may be requested in writing by contacting the DTSC project manager at the above-mentioned address.

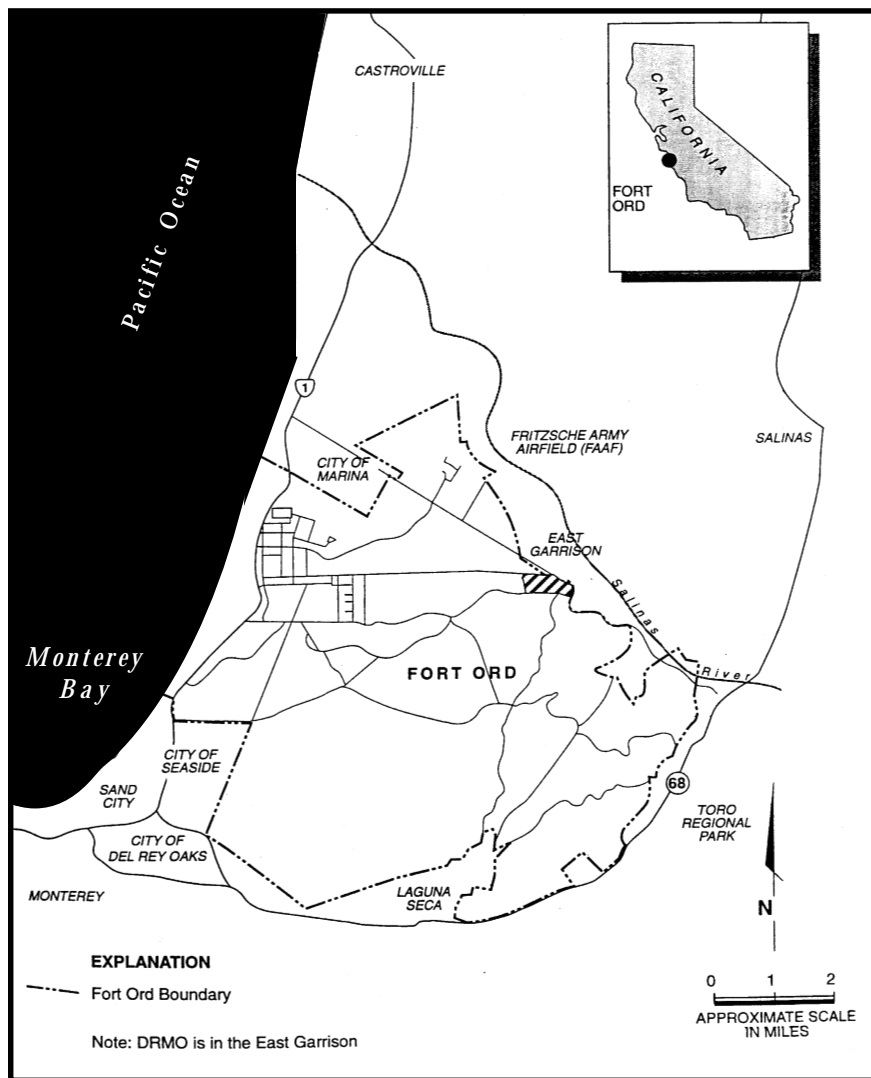


Figure 1

the storage, treatment and disposal of hazardous waste. At that time the USEPA was responsible for approving such documents. In 1992 the State of California was granted authorization by USEPA to implement the RCRA program. As the lead state agency, DTSC has jurisdiction for implementing both RCRA and California's hazardous waste program. In 1995 the Army resubmitted a revised Plan to both USEPA and DTSC.

The DRMO Container Storage Unit (CSU) is being closed as an interim status treatment, storage, and disposal (TSD) facility pursuant to state and federal hazardous waste management programs. The Hazardous Waste Control Law, California Health and Safety Code Chapter 6.5 (HWLC), and Title 22,

California Code of Regulations, Section 66265, Article 7 (22 CCR), set forth state requirements for interim status closure activities. Compliance with these regulations also meets all federal RCRA requirements.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The former Ft. Ord consists of 28,000 acres and is located near Monterey Bay in northwestern Monterey County, California about 110 miles south of San Francisco. It is adjacent to the cities of Seaside, Sand City, Monterey, del Rey Oaks to the south and Marina to the north. The former hazardous waste storage unit known as the CSU of the DRMO is located in the East Garrison area, one of four areas on the former Fort Ord.

The DRMO CSU is an outdoor, fenced, paved area within a larger scrap yard that was used to store

hazardous waste in containers. It is divided into eight storage bays used for segregating waste types, including combustibles, flammable, caustics, oxidizers, acids, toxics, and reactives. During operation of the CSU a sign noting waste type was at the front of each bay. Each storage bay is surrounded by an asphalt berm (at least 6 inches high in all locations). A sloped ramp provides access to each bay. The flammables and combustible storage bays have sealed asphalt. No structures (e.g., buildings) are in the DRMO CSU. Primary containment for hazardous wastes that were handled at the DRMO CSU were the containers in which the wastes were stored; these containers included a range of sizes from ½-gallon to 85-gallon drums and containers.

The DRMO was used for the storage before shipment for ultimate disposition of all hazardous waste, surplus hazardous materials, and other non-hazardous surplus items generated at the former Fort Ord. When the base was active, these wastes, materials, and surplus items were received from other selected installations in the surrounding area for storage. When operating, the former Fort Ord DRMO contracted with a registered hazardous waste hauler to remove hazardous waste to a permitted treatment, storage, or disposal facility. Other surplus items were sold at public auction.

Since operations ceased at the DRMO CSU in November 1994, newly generated hazardous wastes are being stored in a separate generator only (less than 90-day storage) accumulation area. Installation personnel follow procedures to assure removal of wastes from this new accumulation area off-site within 90 days of generation. Most of the hazardous wastes currently generated are related to vehicle maintenance.

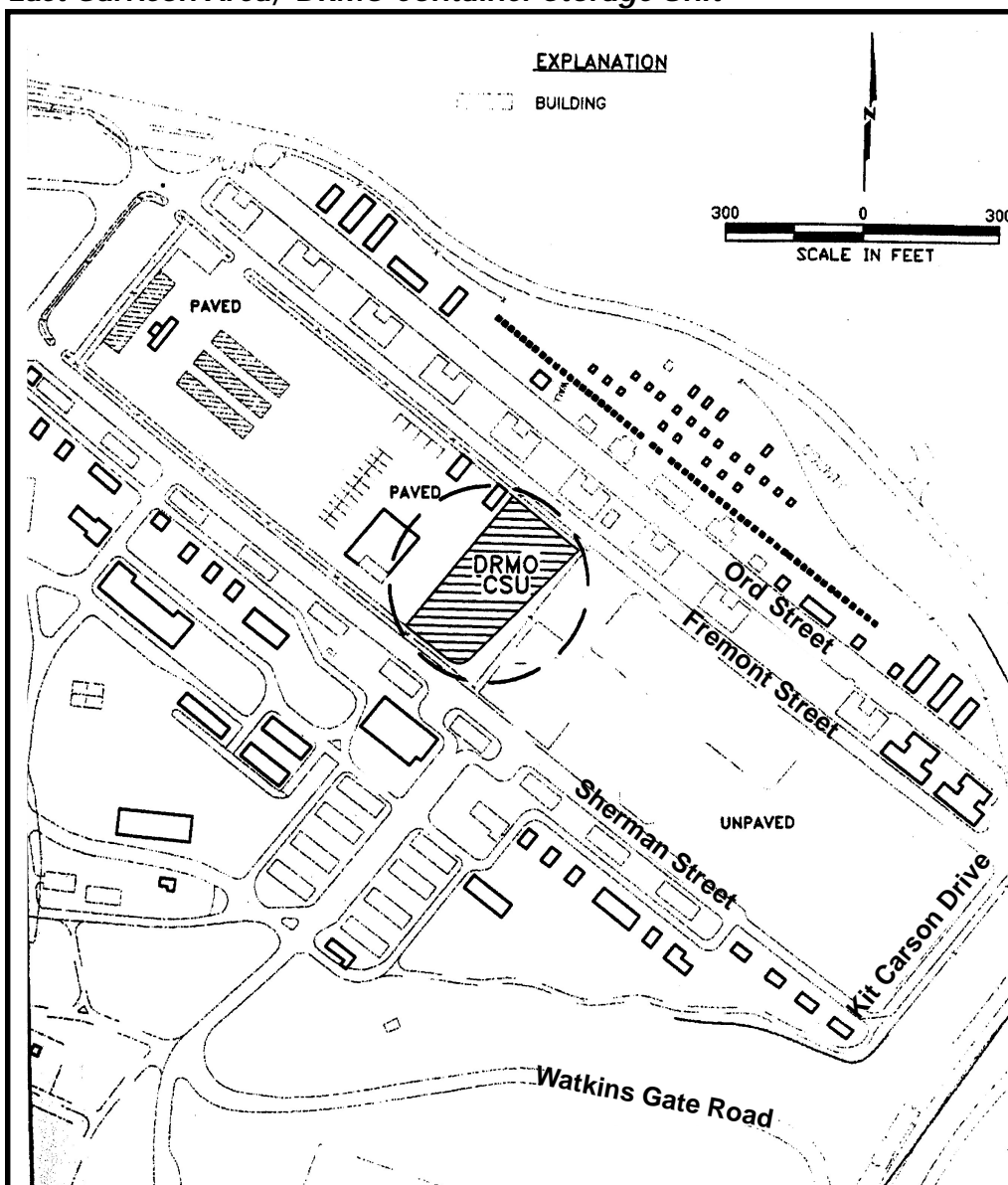
CLOSURE PLAN ACTIVITIES

The DRMO will undergo clean closure; in other words, no hazardous waste will remain after completing closure of the unit and any remaining structures and soil will be decontaminated, disposed as hazardous waste, or remediated as

necessary. Clean closure of the DRMO requires decontaminating a paved area measuring 135 feet by 370 feet (approximately 50,000 square feet). The area will be steam cleaned and the rinsate will be sampled. If contaminated, the rinsate will be treated and/or disposed of in a permitted off-site facility. If the water is not contaminated, the rinsate will be discharged to the sewer, providing that the water meets discharge requirements.

The project also includes sampling of soils to check for contamination. Approximately 28 one foot shallow soil borings have been drilled through the asphalt

East Garrison Area, DRMO Container Storage Unit



paving. Borings were located at the drain valves and in areas with cracks, stains, or other evidence of potential release.

Cleanup levels for the area are based on levels considered safe for unrestricted or residential use. Preliminary soil testing of the area resulted in three locations having levels of hazardous components above the approved cleanup levels. These locations had total petroleum hydrocarbons (TPH, oil and grease) at 1500 part per million (ppm), PCB's at 300 part per billion (ppb), and at 220 ppb. Cleanup levels for these constituents are 500 ppm for TPH, and 200 ppb for PCB's. The Plan would require that an area nine feet by nine feet and three feet deep would be removed around areas which tested at elevated levels. Confirmation sampling will be required to ensure that soils left around the excavated area are within approved cleanup levels. The total amount of soil estimated for removal is 27 cubic yards. All excavations will be backfilled with native soils once the confirmation samples indicate that the area is clean.

CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT (CEQA) COMPLIANCE

In compliance with CEQA, DTSC has reviewed the proposed activities for the project and determined that it will not have any potential for an adverse effect on public health or the environment. Therefore, DTSC exempted this project from the requirements of CEQA under Title 14, CCR, Section 15061 (b) (3). A copy of the Notice of Exemption (NOE) is available in all information repositories. The NOE explains the controls used to limit potential environmental impacts.



INFORMATION REPOSITORIES

The Plan and other site related documents are available at the following information repositories:



Fort Ord Administrative Record

Building 4463 Gigling Road
Presidio of Monterey Annex (Formerly Fort Ord),
California 93944
Phone (831) 393-9186
Hours: 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Monday through Thursday

Chamberlin Library

Building 4275 North South Road
Presidio of Monterey Annex (Formerly Fort Ord),
California 93944
Phone (831) 242-3421
Hours: 12:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Sunday through Thursday

Seaside Branch Library

550 Harcourt Avenue
Seaside, California 93955
Phone (831) 899-2055
Hours: 12:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., Monday; 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m., Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday; 12:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m., Friday; 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., Saturday; 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m., Sunday

Department of Toxic Substances Control

File Room
700 Heinz Avenue, Suite 200
Berkeley, California 94710-2737
Phone (510) 540-3800
Hours: 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday

CSUMB Library Learning Complex

100 Campus Center, Building 12
Seaside, California 93955-8001
Phone (831) 582-3872
Hours: 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m., Monday through Thursday; 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Friday; 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m., Saturday; 1:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., Sunday

FOR MORE INFORMATION

If you would like additional information about the draft Plan, please contact the following:

Mr. Andy Berna-Hicks

Project Manager

Department of Toxic Substances Control

700 Heinz Avenue, Suite 200

Berkeley, California 94710-2737

Phone # (510) 540-3956

or

Ms. Claire Best

Public Participation Supervisor

(HQ-15)

Department of Toxic Substances Control

400 P Street

P.O. 806

Sacramento, California 95812-0806

Notice to Hearing Impaired Individuals

You can obtain additional information by using the California State Relay Service at 1-888-877-5378 (TDD). Ask them to contact Claire Best at (916) 324-2809 regarding the draft Closure Plan for Fort Ord.

If you did not receive this fact sheet in the mail and would like to be added to the mailing list to receive future information about the draft Closure Plan, please complete this coupon and return it to **Claire Best** (HQ-15), Department of Toxic Substances Control, P.O. Box 806, Sacramento, California 95812-0806.

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

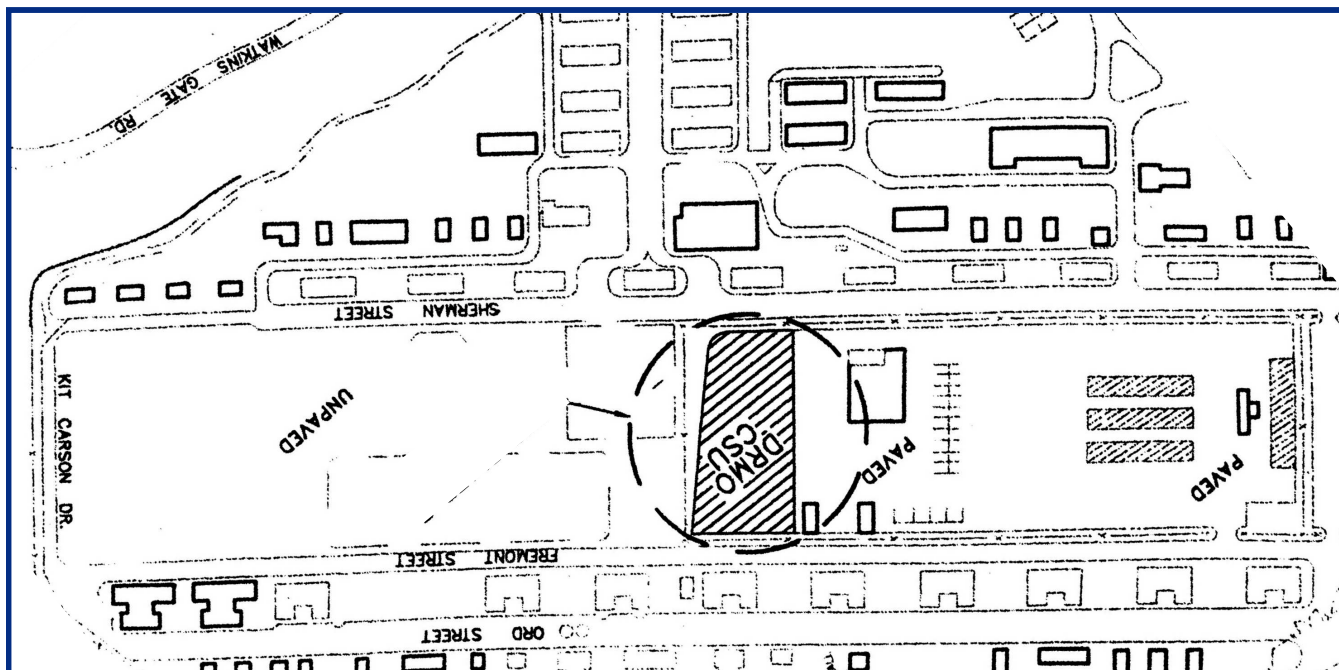
PHONE (OPTIONAL) _____

☐ Please add my name to
the mailing list

☐ Please correct my address

☐ Please delete my name
from the mailing list

Please note that mailing list are public information and may be subject to release.



East Garrison Area, DRMO Container Storage Unit



Ms. Claire Best, Public Participation Supervisor, (HQ-15)
Department of Toxic Substances Control
400 P Street, P.O. 806
Sacramento, California 95812-0806